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Chief, St/I/R

2 May 1958

THRU : Chief, D/S  
Chief, S/TR

Questions for State Air Pouch Despatch no. 549, Helsinki

1. Please refer to Finland weekly economic review, no. 13, dated 27 March 1958.

2. Paragraph 4, page 3, reads as follows: "The main order of business concerned problems arising out of the anticipated removal of couplings from Russian freight cars. It was decided that for purposes of traffic into Finland, the Russians would arrange for installation of couplings on Russian cars at the Wartaila and Luuhanka stations. The costs of installation, up to Fmk 1,520 per car, will be borne by the receivers of goods, and will be charged beginning July 1, 1958. As of May 1, 1958, Finland's cars will cease to be used for export traffic, except on trains carrying wood products between Rautva and Svetogorski and between Niiralan and Svetogorski via Wartaila and Kakisalmi."

3. It is requested that inquiry be made to determine whether the word "buffers" was not intended in place of "couplings" in the above quoted paragraph.

4. If the word "couplings" is correct, are we to understand that Finnish freight cars are still equipped with hook and chain couplings?

Responsible Analyst:

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